

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.:	10/749,762	Confirmation No.:	9125
Applicant(s):	Keith A. Etling		
Filed:	December 31, 2003		
Art Unit:	3676		
Examiner:	Alison K. Pickard		
Title:	APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SEALING SURFACES		

Docket No.: 038190/269125
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 13, 2006

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 20, 2006 and concurrent with the filing of a request for continued examination (RCE), please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 9 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.